

8. *A New Clypeaster from Angola.*—By HUBERT LYMAN CLARK,
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(With Plate XXXIII.)

THROUGH the kindness of the Director of the South African Museum, the bare and somewhat waterworn test of a Clypeaster from the coast of Angola was sent to me for identification. As it proves to be quite distinct from any recent species hitherto described, and cannot be referred to any fossil species known to me, I venture to describe it as a new species, which may be called, because of the relatively small petaloid area,

*Clypeaster micropetalus.**

Length 121 mm. ; greatest width (across petals II and IV), 104 mm. ; greatest height (in interporiferous area of petal III), 31 mm. ; height at madreporite, less than 30 mm. ; thickness of test margin about 13 mm. Test stout, somewhat flattened at apex, but sloping upwards rather uniformly from the thick margin. Interporiferous areas conspicuously swollen, except basally, where the petals are quite flat. Petaloid area relatively small, only 70 mm. long by 64 mm. wide ; petal III, distinctly longest, 40 mm. long, by 21 mm. wide, widest at middle, with interporiferous area 14 mm. wide at that point, and poriferous areas widest near tip, where each is about 5 mm. across ; there are about 46 pore-pairs on each side of the petal, and the ridges between the pore-pairs, distally, carry 6-8 primary tubercles. Other petals quite similar, I and V about 36 mm. long and II and IV about 34 mm. All the petals tend to be closed, but petal III is open by 3.5 mm., petals I and V by 2.5 mm., and II and IV by less than 2 mm. ; in all, the interporiferous area is distinctly attenuate distally. Tuberculation of test rather fine, about 125 primary tubercles to a square centimetre of the aboral surface ; orally the primary tubercles are larger, but are closer together near test margin and much more widely separated near mouth ; in inter-

* Μικρός = small + πέταλον = a petal.

ambulacrum 5 just distal to mouth there are only about 35 primary tubercles in a square centimetre.

Oral surface flat near margin, but becoming rather suddenly deeply sunken at mouth, which is 11 mm. below the margin (when test is inverted). Ambulacral furrows conspicuous and considerably sunken. Periproct 6.5 mm. wide, 5.5 mm. long; its posterior margin is 6 mm. from the edge of the test, so it is distinctly actinal and not submarginal in position.

Colour, dirty white orally, but becoming gray aborally, especially on interporiferous areas.

Elephant Bay, Angola, about 60 miles south of Benguela. One specimen. South African Museum, No. A 6456.

This well-marked species finds its nearest ally in *C. japonicus* of Japan, and in *ochrus* and *speciosus* of the west coast of Central America. It is easily distinguished from these species, however, by the small size of the petaloid area, the shape of the petals, particularly the attenuate interporiferous area, the finer tuberculation, and the distinctly actinal periproct. It is totally unlike the South African species, *audouini* and *eurychorius*. As Elephant Bay is north of Mossamedes, this new Clypeaster cannot be counted in the South African fauna, as defined in my "Echinoderm Fauna of South Africa" (1923, Ann. S. Afr. Mus., vol. xiii, p. 222), but it is not unlikely that it will ultimately be found at least on the northern part of the coast of South-West Africa.